



# Committee on Homeland Security

Democrats

**Bennie G. Thompson, Ranking  
Member**

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## **LEVEES PROTECTED IN FIRST RESPONDER BILL PASSED BY HOUSE COMMITTEE**

**April 21, 2005, Washington, DC** — The Committee on Homeland Security completed its review of the first responders bill, H.R. 1544, “The Faster and Smarter Funding for First Responders Act of 2005,” and sent it to the House floor for consideration.

Congressman Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS), Ranking Member of the House Committee on Homeland Security stated, “**H.R. 1544 will ensure that risk factors are considered in all areas of the country, regardless if they are urban, suburban, or rural. This legislation will finally address risk in rural America.**” Currently, rural America is not highly considered for grant money when funding is distributed to first responders.

“**One particular issue concerning my district is the issue of flood control levees. Flood control levees are essential to critical infrastructure and are responsible for saving lives and property. I am pleased that the definition of dams in H.R. 1544 includes flood control levees,**” said Thompson.

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